



Newsletter – 10th December 2021

“Every Achievement Counts”

Stars of the Week

Cerim	Working well with new adults and managing changes
Patrick	Staying at school for the whole day and joining in with playing with his friends in the pathway with a big smile
Eliza	Moving outside independently after having her coat put on
Lila	Great listening, speaking, problem solving and helping with jobs around the school
Clarrise	Using her Bugzi again since returning to school
Oscar	Starting to eat oral lunches in school

Titan pupils for completing home learning this week. We look forward to having you back in school next week.

Staff shout-out to the staff in Venus and Neptune who have kept the learning going for pupils this week, keeping them safe and great team work. Thank you to those staff who have stepped up to lead these two classes in their teachers' absence.

Shout-out to Charley for her wonderful, child-led, intensive interactions with pupils in Neptune

Shout-out to Nicky for helping us all to keep safe and managing Covid related challenges this week

Shout-out to Paola for supporting with all the pupils' medical needs this week

Shout-out to Luana for supporting pupils in Jupiter class and being a great team player

Message from Chair of Governors

“You will all have seen that Greenmead was again rated Outstanding by Ofsted. My understanding is that it is not the norm for schools to retain former ratings at this level and the lead inspector commented that this is ‘exceptional’. Ofsted looks critically at schools to ensure that they warrant keeping their Outstanding judgement. That we have done so is a testament to the hard work of Toni, Roxanne, all the senior leadership team and staff. One of the factors by which Ofsted was impressed is how leadership has been distributed throughout the school, with everyone stepping up to do their bit to ensure pupils achieve despite the challenges of the last 18 months. We have all, of course, been stretched by Covid, which now seems to have been with us for so long. One thing Greenmead has done is to adopt a policy with regard to pupil “bubbles” which means that we have been very successful at limiting the spread of the virus across the school. Anecdotally, the frequency with which Covid is being contracted by children at other schools is far greater than at Greenmead. One consequence of this is that from time to time classes do have to close if we are to maintain those bubbles. I know this can be stressful for families. The school has been working with agencies to train up agency staff so they can step in to minimise disruption. Equally I know that this does not always mean the school can keep classes open safely. I hope you can appreciate that this is done with a view to protecting all the children and staff. Whilst recognising that there can be frustrations, may I ask you please, in the light of this explanation, to bear with us when problems arise. The team is doing all it can to minimise disruption even if our principal aim of safeguarding all our children means that sometimes we will not be able to do that.

I wish you and your families all the best for the forthcoming break.”

Key Diary Dates

Autumn 2 term

17th Dec End of Term (1pm for pupils)

Spring 1 term

4th January INSET day – no school for pupils

5th January Pupils return to school

Please note a change to Summer term dates:

Additional INSET day in lieu of Queen's Jubilee

Bank Holiday agreed by DfE for all schools

Friday 1st July 2022 – no school for pupils or staff

A reminder and update of term dates have been sent to you via email today and have been updated on the website.

Save the Date

The FOG committee have started to plan for some in-person events this year, Covid regulations depending. Details will be shared closer to the time but do save these dates in your diary.

Valentines Bingo for the Whole Family

Thursday 10th February (3.30pm)

Quiz Night for Adults

Thursday 28th April (evening)

Summer Fair for the Whole Family

Saturday 18th June (late morning/early afternoon)



Friendships at School

Friendships in school are so important to our pupils and was highlighted in our Ofsted report how much pupils enjoy and value these friendships.



Christmas Shop

Thank you to everyone who has ordered and donated to our Christmas Shop. Packages will be coming home on Monday.



Flu Vaccination Catch-up for Pupils

We have been advised that there will be a flu vaccination catch up session for children who missed theirs in school on **15th December at St John's Health Centre, St John's Hill from 3-6.30pm**. Please contact them directly for more information.

Oily Cart Fun

Jade and Lauren have led on partnering Greenmead up with Oily Cart again this year. Oily Cart are celebrating their 40th birthday this year and looking back at their archives they've found that Greenmead was one of the first schools they worked with way back then and we've continued to enjoy working with them over the years. Oily Cart have a new touring show starting in January and they have been developing their props and the multi-sensory, interactive show with the help of pupils in the sensory pathway. They have been getting feedback from the pupils and staff and have been able to adapt their show, The Cart, accordingly to ensure that other pupils get the most out of the performance as they tour around the country. Here is a glimpse of some of the fun we've had with props.



Oily Cart

